

# PROCLAMATION

BY THE

## Governor of the State of Texas

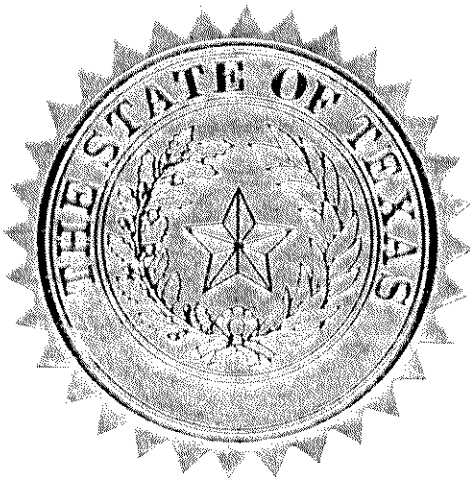
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TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto House Bill No. 1503 as passed by the Eightieth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

House Bill No. 1503 would have been an acceptable bill that expands Texans' right to carry concealed handguns were it not for an 11th hour amendment that creates unintended consequences. The unintended consequences arise from the bill's attempt to redefine a criminal conviction by excluding, among others, those who have been convicted of a felony and discharged from prison. The troublesome provision could result in ex-convicts who have completed their sentences for murder, rape, robbery, or other violent crimes being allowed to possess firearms immediately upon release from prison. This provision also could jeopardize the reciprocity agreements Texas has with other states involving concealed handgun permits.

Since the Legislature by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2007.

*Rick Perry*  
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RICK PERRY  
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

*Roger Williams*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ROGER WILLIAMS  
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
O'CLOCK

JUN 15 2007